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MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 9, 2015

TO: HHS and SJH Physicians, P. McGillis, P. Guy, K. Bortolon, R. Frassetto, IDMM Residents, Microbiology Laboratory

FROM: Dr. D. Yamamura and D. Johnson

CC: Microbiologists, J. Korver, D. Boychuk, J. Ellis

RE: **Temporary change in duration of blood culture incubation**

Effective immediately the microbiology laboratory will be temporarily reducing the incubation period for routine blood cultures from 5 days to 4 days due to an unexpected increase in blood culture volumes. This should have minimal clinical impact as reducing to four days still results in recovery of up to 95-97% as per some published studies. This will not impact the duration of incubation for endocarditis, which will continue to be 7 days.

For any questions, please contact Dr. D. Yamamura (ext 46111) or the microbiologist on call via paging.

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